

### **REMARKS**

The Office Action mailed June 16, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and, in view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

#### **I. Summary of Claims**

Claims 102-130 are currently pending in the application, with claims 102, 116, 122, and 127 being independent claims. Claims 1-101 are cancelled (without prejudice or disclaimer) and claims 102-130 are added, in accordance with the above amendments. The Applicants hereby expressly reserve the rights to reintroduce claims with the subject matter of claims 1-101 and/or file a continuing application to the subject matter of claims 1-101.

#### **II. Allowability of Claims**

The Office Action indicates that claim 17, 88, 96, and 99, for example, would be allowable if written in independent claim form, including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The added claims include the following:

- Independent claim 102, which substantially incorporates the recitations of independent claim 1 and dependent claim 17;
- Independent claim 116, which substantially incorporates the recitations of independent claim 82 and dependent claims 86 and 88;
- Independent claim 122, which substantially incorporates the recitations of independent claim 89 and dependent claim 96; and
- Independent claim 127, which substantially incorporates the recitations of independent claim 97 and dependent claim 99.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 102, 116, 122, and 127 are allowable. In addition, dependent claims 103-115, 117-121, 123-126, and 128-130 should be allowable for being dependent upon an allowable independent claim.

### III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in a condition for allowance. The Applicants respectfully request, therefore, that the rejections be withdrawn and that this application now be allowed.

This Amendment is being filed by facsimile transmission on October 3, 2005 with a one month Petition for Extension of Time. Should additional fees or an extension of time be deemed necessary for consideration of this Amendment, such fees or extension are hereby requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account number 19-0733 for payment. If anything further is desirable to place the application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned representative at (503) 425-6800.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Byron S. Kuzara  
Byron S. Kuzara  
Registration No. 51,255

Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.  
1001 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
Telephone: (202) 824-3000

Dated: October 3, 2005